

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 MC-02 AID-20 T-03 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 ACDA-19 GAC-01

RSR-01 /161 W

----- 058406

R 150603 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9098

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

CINCPAC

UNCLAS DACCA 1148

E O 11652 N/A

TAGS MASS, PFOR, XD, BG, US

SUBJECT: REACTION TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF ARMS POLICY

1. BENGALLEES HAVE REACTED SHARPLY AND UNFAVORABLY TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF END TO USG EMBARGO ON ARMS SHIPMENT TO INDIA AND PAKISTAN. PRESS QUOTES MFA SPOKESMAN AS SAYING THAT ACTION " WOULD COMPLICATE THE SITUATION IN THE SUBCONTINENT... THIS ARMING WOULD SIMPLY HARDEN THE WARRING ATTITUDE OF THE PAKISTANI ADMINISTRATION TOWARD NOT ONLY THE PEACE- LOVING PEOPLE WITHIN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, BUT ALSO ADD FUEL TO THE BLAZE OF SUPPRESSING THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES WITHIN THAT COUNTRY ITSELF... ARMING OF PAKISTAN WOULD STAND IN THE WAY OF ESTABLISHING DURABLE PEACE IN THE SUBCONTINENT". AL GENERAL SECRETARY ZILLUR RAHMAN ECHOED MFA CRITICISM, ADDING THAT " FRESH ARMS SUPPLY MIGHT RETARD THE EARLY REPATRIATION OF THE STRANDED BENGALLEES IN PAKISTAN". AWAMI JUBO

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LEAGUE LEADER SHEIKH FAZLUL HUQ MONI AND
NAP/ M GENERAL SECRETARY PANKAJ BHATTACHARJEE
EXPRESSED SIMILAR SENTIMENTS.

2. FORMER U. S. AMBASSADOR TO INDIA CHESTER BOWLES,
CURRENTLY VISITING DACCA, QUOTED BY LOCAL PRESS
AS SAYING THAT " RESUMPTION OF US ARMS AID TO
PAKISTAN WOULD DISTURB PEACE AND JEOPARDIZE THE
PROSPECT OF NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS AMONG THE
SUBCONTINENTAL COUNTRIES". BOWLES
REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT " PEOPLE OF THE UNITED
STATES AND THE CONGRESS WOULD OPPOSE ANY SUCH
MOVE MADE BY THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION".

3. ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT THUS FAR IN ENGLISH
DAILY " PEOPLE" WHICH NOTED THAT REPORTED
RESUMPTION " U. S. MILITARY HARDWARE" TO PAKISTAN
LIKELY HARDEN LATTERS AGGRESSIVE ATTITUDE.
EDITORIAL OBSERVED " PAKISTANI ATTITUDE TOWARD
BANGLADESH AND INDIA CLOSELY MATCHED BY
UNCHANGED POLICIES OF U. S. AND CHINA TOWARD
SUBCONTINENT". NO BDG MINISTERIAL COMMENT YET.
NEWBERRY

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: MASS, PFOR, BG, US, XD
To: CALCUTTA
CINCPAC
ISLAMABAD
LONDON
NEA
NEW DELHI
SECSTATE WASHDC

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